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By His EXCELLENCY

THOMAS CHITTENDEN, Esq;

Captain-General, Governor and Commander in Chief in and
over the State of VERMONT.

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS the virtuous Efforts and laudable Exertions of the good People of this State, have not only enabled them (by the benevolent Interposition of the all-wise Governor of the Universe) to frustrate the wicked Devices, the despotic and tyrannical Designs of their foreign as well as domestic Enemies, but has procured to themselves the inestimable Blessings of a free and Independent Government, and merited the Esteem and Confidence of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

AND whereas it has ever been found (by universal Experience) in all free Governments, to be of the highest Importance, both for the Honor of GOD, the Advancement of Religion, and the Peace, Safety, and Tranquility of the Inhabitants thereof, that good and wholesome Laws be established, and Justice impartially administered throughout the same, in order to secure each Subject in the peaceable Enjoyment of his Rights and Liberties both civil and religious. *AND* whereas the Laws of this State are now promulgated in a full and proper Manner amongst the Inhabitants thereof, whereby each Subject may become acquainted with his Duty.

I HAVE therefore thought fit, by and with the Advice of my Council, and the Request of the General Assembly, to issue this Proclamation, and do hereby strictly require, charge, and command all Persons, of what Quality or Denomination soever, residing within this State, to take Notice thereof, and govern themselves accordingly, on Pain of incurring the Penalties therein contained.

AND I do hereby further strictly require and command all Magistrates, Justices of the Peace, Sheriffs, Constables, and other Civil Officers, to be active and vigilant in executing the Laws aforesaid, without Partiality, Favor, or Affection.

GIVEN under my Hand, and the Seal of this State, in the Council-Chamber in Bennington, this 23^d Day of February, in the Third Year of the Independency of this and the United States of AMERICA, and in the Year of our LORD, One thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine.

THO'S CHITTENDEN

By His Excellency's Command,
with Advice of Council,
JOSEPH FAY, Sec'y.

GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE.